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10/518,286	07/05/2005	Paul R. Routley	30740/285906	6677

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EXAMINER

HO, BAO QUAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2629

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/518,286	Applicant(s) ROUTLEY ET AL.	
	Examiner Bao-Quan T. Ho	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.
3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

4. **Claims 3-4 and 14-15** are objected to because of the following informalities: the word "its" recited in claims 3 and 14 is not clear and concise and needs to be renamed to "said constant current generator". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

5. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 26 attempts to claim rights to a carrier carrying the processor control code of claim 13. The specification relates that the carrier "may comprise a storage medium such as a hard or floppy disk, CD- or DVD-

ROM or programmed memory such as read-only memory (firmware), or a data carrier such as an optical or electrical signal carrier" (see Pages 14-15). The "optical or electrical signal carrier" is intangible and therefor does not constitute a process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter.

Double Patenting

6. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

7. **Claims 1-26** are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 12, 13-14, 17, 23, 27-28, 30-33 of copending Application No. 10/518,182. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because of the following reasons shown below:

Claim 1 of application 10518182 Filed on 10/31/2007	Claim 1 of instant application 10518286 Filed 12/16/2004
<p>A display driver for an active matrix electroluminescent display, the display comprising a plurality of electroluminescent display elements each associated with a display element driver circuit, each said display element driver circuit including a drive field effect transistor having a gate connection for driving the associated display element in accordance with a voltage on the gate connection, the display driver comprising:</p>	<p>Display driver control circuitry for controlling a display driver for an electroluminescent display, the display comprising at least one electroluminescent display element, the driver including at least one substantially constant current generator for driving the display element, the control circuitry comprising:</p>
<p>a plurality of adjustable constant current generators each for driving a said display elements with an adjustable constant current determining said voltage on said gate connection;</p>	
<p>a display element brightness controller configured to control said plurality of adjustable constant current generators to</p>	

drive said gate connections to control the electroluminescent output from a said display elements;	
A voltage sensor to sense a said voltage on a said gate connection; and	a drive voltage sensor for sensing a voltage on a first line in which the current is regulated by said constant current generator; and
a power controller coupled to said voltage sensor for controlling an adjustable voltage power supply to said plurality of adjustable constant current generators, said power controller being configured to reduce said power supply voltage in response to said sensed voltage to a point where a voltage of said adjustable voltage power supply is just sufficient for a said adjustable constant current generators with a highest output current to be able to provide a highest gate connection voltage, said highest gate connection voltage being determined by said highest output current	a voltage controller coupled to said drive voltage sensor for controlling the voltage of a supply for said constant current generator in response to said sensed voltage, and configured to control said supply voltage to increase the efficiency of said display driver

in accordance with a compliance of said adjustable constant current generator with said highest output current.	
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This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Note the comparison above, claim 1 of the instant application is not patentably distinct from claim 1 of the application 10/518,182. Claim 1 of the instant application appears broader than claim 1 of the application 10/518,182 because it does not have a "display element brightness controller configured to control said plurality of adjustable constant current generators to drive said gate connections to control the electroluminescent output from said display elements" recited in the application 10/518,182. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to have deleted the display element brightness controller as cited in claim 1 of application 10/518,182 because the functionality is not needed.

As to claims 2-26, these claims are also disclosed in claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 12, 13-14, 17, 23, 27-28, 30-33 of application 10/518,182.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. **Claims 1-5, 10-11, 13-16, 19-20, 22, and 26-27** are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakamoto, US Patent 5,594,463.

Regarding claim 1, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 6 a display driver control circuitry for controlling a display driver for an electroluminescent display (30), the display comprising at least one electroluminescent display element (52), the driver including at least one substantially constant current generator (constant current source 88, col. 6 lines 56-59) for driving the display element, the control circuitry comprising:

a drive voltage sensor (terminal A, col. 7 lines 7-14) for sensing a voltage on a first line (A0) in which the current is regulated by said constant current generator; and

a voltage controller (CPU 54, col. 7 lines 14-20) coupled to said drive voltage sensor for controlling the voltage of a supply (Vd) for said constant current generator in response to said sensed voltage, and configured to control said supply voltage to increase the efficiency of said display driver.

Regarding claim 2, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 7 wherein said voltage controller (54) is configured to reduce said supply voltage (driving voltage Vd reduced by the estimated voltage drop Vf of the EL element, col. 7 lines 40-46) when this will not substantially reduce said regulated current and/or said display brightness (the driving current value is set S102, which is the brightness, while the voltage drop is to be detected S110 by setting the drive current fixed to estimate the voltage drop across the

anode and cathode of the EL element to configure the driving voltage V_d , col. 7 lines 18-61)

Regarding claim 3, Sakamoto discloses wherein said voltage controller (54) is configured to control said supply voltage (V_d) such that said constant current generator (88) operates in the vicinity of its compliance limit (driving current value is set S102, col. 7 lines 24-25).

Regarding claim 4, Sakamoto discloses further in Fig. 11 comprising means to determine a compliance limit for use by said voltage controller (CPU 54 outputs current command for the constant current source 88 to be controlled at an appropriate value, col. 9 lines 54-63).

Regarding claim 5, Sakamoto discloses further in Fig. 6 and 7 comprising a supply voltage sensor (Terminal B, S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) for sensing said supply voltage (V_d), and means to determine a difference between said supply voltage (voltage V_d at the electric source) and said first line voltage (the voltage V_x that is increased in the highest degree), and wherein said voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage responsive to said difference (step S114, col. 7 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 10, Sakamoto discloses wherein said display has at least one control line (lines coming from PWM 48-0, 48-1, etc..., col. 6 lines 56-67 to col. 7 lines 1-6) for controlling the illumination of said at least one electroluminescent display element (52), wherein said drive voltage sensor is configured to sense the voltage on said display control line (terminal A), and wherein said voltage controller (82) has an

output for controlling an adjustable power supply configured for providing said supply voltage.

Regarding claim 11, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 2 and 6 a display driver (X driver 32, col. 5 lines 15-19) including the display driver control circuitry of claim 1.

Regarding claim 13, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 6 and 7 a method of reducing the power consumption of a display driver driving an electroluminescent display (30), the display comprising at least one electroluminescent display element (52), the driver (X driver 32) including at least one substantially constant current generator (constant current source 88, col. 6 lines 56-59) for driving the display element and having a power supply for supplying power at a supply voltage for said current generator, the method comprising:

sensing (terminal A, col. 7 lines 7-14) a voltage on a first line coupled to the current generator, the current in which first line is regulated by the current generator; and

controlling (CPU 54) said supply voltage responsive to said sensed voltage (V_x) to reduce said supply voltage (driving voltage V_d reduced by the estimated voltage drop V_f of the EL element, col. 7 lines 40-46) when a reduction may be made without substantially altering said regulated current brightness (the driving current value is set S102, which is the brightness, while the voltage drop is to be detected S110 by setting the drive current fixed to estimate the voltage drop across the anode and cathode of the EL element to configure the driving voltage V_d , col. 7 lines 18-61).

Regarding claim 14, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 7 controlling said supply voltage (V_d) such that said current generator operates at or near its compliance limit (driving current value is set S102, col. 7 lines 24-25).

Regarding claim 15, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 11 determining said current generator compliance limit for use in said controlling (CPU 54 outputs current command for the constant current source 88 to be controlled at an appropriate value, col. 9 lines 54-63).

Regarding claim 16, Sakamoto further discloses a method comprising:

sensing (Terminal B, S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) a voltage on a second line (K0), the voltage on said second line being dependent upon said power supply voltage (Terminal B is used to measure the voltage drop across the EL element depending on the supply voltage on line A0); and

determining (S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) a voltage difference between the voltage sensed on said first (voltage V_x is increased to the highest degree) and second (voltage V_d at the electric source) lines;

wherein said controlling is responsive to said voltage difference (step S114, col. 7 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 19, Sakamoto discloses a method wherein said display has at least one control line (lines coming from PWM 48-0, 48-1, etc..., col. 6 lines 56-67 to col. 7 lines 1-6) for controlling the illumination of said at least one electroluminescent display element, wherein said driver (X driver 32, Fig. 6) drives said control line, and

wherein said sensing (detection Terminal A) comprises sensing a voltage on said control line.

Regarding claim 20, Sakamoto discloses a method wherein a said substantially constant current generator comprises a current source (constant current source 88).

Regarding claim 22, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 2 and 6 a method wherein said display comprises a passive matrix display having a plurality of electroluminescent display elements (52) and a plurality of row electrodes (K0, K1, etc...) and a plurality of column electrodes (K0, K1, etc...) for addressing said display elements, and wherein said driver (X driver 32) is coupled to at least one of said plurality of row electrodes (K0, K1, etc...) and said plurality of said column electrodes (A0, A1, etc...) for driving said display.

Regarding claim 26, Sakamoto discloses a carrier carrying processor control code (ROM 58 connected to CPU 54, Fig. 5) to implement the method of claim 13.

Regarding claim 27, Sakamoto discloses a Display driver circuitry (X driver 32, col. 5 lines 15-19) configured to implement the method of claim 13

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. **Claims 6-7, 12, 17-18, and 25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Everitt, US Pub. 2002/0167471.

Regarding claim 6, Sakamoto discloses in Fig. 6 wherein said display has a plurality of electroluminescent display elements (52), and wherein said display driver has a plurality of substantially constant current generators (88) for simultaneously driving said plurality of display elements, each said constant current generator being configured for regulating the current on an associated display drive line (A0, A1, etc...), and wherein said voltage controller (82) configured to control said supply voltage (Vd) responsive to the sensed voltage (Vx) on a said drive line having a maximum voltage of said drive line sensed voltages (step S108 in Fig. 7, col. 7 lines 47-50).

Sakamoto does not specially teach the display driver control circuitry further comprising a drive voltage sensor for sensing the voltage on each said display drive line.

However, Everitt teaches in Fig. 4 and 7 a display driver control circuitry further comprising a drive voltage sensor for sensing the voltage on each said display drive line (Voltage drivers 304 connected to each column and also a calibration circuit 338 , Page 3 in Paragraph [0034], to measure the voltages from each column, Page 5 in Paragraph [0055]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to have used a calibration circuit for measuring voltage for each of the driving line as taught by Everitt in place of the drive voltage sensor of

Sakamoto for the purpose of power reduction for the display (Page 5 in Paragraph [0064]).

Regarding claim 7, Sakamoto discloses further in Fig. 7 comprising a supply voltage sensor (Terminal B, S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) for sensing said supply voltage (V_d), and means to determine a difference between said supply voltage (voltage V_d at the electric source) and said maximum voltage (the voltage V_x that is increased in the highest degree), and wherein said voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage responsive to said difference (step S114, col. 7 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 12 and 25, Everitt discloses wherein said electroluminescent display element comprises an organic light emitting diode (Page 1 in Paragraph [0004]).

Regarding claim 17, Sakamoto disclose the method as claimed in claim 13, Sakamoto also discloses wherein said display comprises a plurality of simultaneously driveable electroluminescent display elements (52) each being driven by a said substantially constant current generator (88), each said substantially constant current generator having an associated drive line the current in which is regulated by the current generator(A0, A1, etc...), the method further comprising:

As taught by Everitt, sensing the voltage on each said associated drive line (Everitt discloses in Fig. 4 and 7 a plurality of voltage drivers 304 with a calibration circuit 338, Page 3 in Paragraph [0034], to sense the voltage on each drive line, Page 5 in Paragraph [0055]. The motivation to combine as mentioned above in claim 6, thus combining Sakamoto with Everitt would meet this limitation); and

Sakamoto further discloses controlling (CPU 54) said supply voltage responsive to said sensed voltage (V_x) to reduce said supply voltage (driving voltage V_d reduced by the estimated voltage drop V_f of the EL element, col. 7 lines 40-46) when a reduction may be made without substantially altering the regulated current (the driving current value is set S102, which is the brightness, while the voltage drop is to be detected S110 by setting the drive current fixed to estimate the voltage drop across the anode and cathode of the EL element to configure the driving voltage V_d , col. 7 lines 18-61) in a said associated drive line having a maximum sensed voltage (V_x is to be detected to the highest degree in step S108, col. 7 lines 47-50).

Regarding claim 18, Sakamoto further discloses a method comprising:

sensing (Terminal B, S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) a voltage on a further line (K0), the voltage on said further line being dependent upon said power supply voltage (Terminal B is used to measure the voltage drop across the EL element depending on the supply voltage on line A0); and

determining (S108 and S110, col. 7 lines 47-50) a voltage difference between the voltage sensed on said further line (voltage V_d at the electric source) and said maximum sensed voltage (voltage V_x is increased to the highest degree); and

wherein said controlling is responsive to said voltage difference (step S114, col. 7 lines 51-61).

12. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Everitt as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Koyama, US Patent 6,730,966.

Regarding claim 8, Sakamoto in view of Everitt discloses a display driver control circuitry according to claim 6, Sakamoto also discloses in Fig. 6 wherein said display comprises a passive matrix display, but Sakamoto in view of Everitt does not specifically disclose wherein said voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage on a frame-by-frame basis.

However, Koyama teaches wherein a voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage on a frame-by-frame basis. (Koyama discloses in Fig. 5 in col. 11 lines 24-27, a controller 112 is set to turn on the EL driver voltage during each subframe).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to have used the controller to turn on the EL driver voltage during each subframe as taught by Koyama to be applied to the controller of Sakamoto for the purpose of preventing a decrease in the number of gradations (col. 5 lines 25-33).

13. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Koyama.

Regarding claim 24, Sakamoto discloses the method according to claim 22.

Furthermore, Claim 24 will be rejected on the same basis in view of Koyama as applied with the motivation is stated above in claim 8. Thus, the combination of Sakamoto with Koyama meets the method of sensing and controlling on a frame-by-frame basis.

14. **Claim 9** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Everitt as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Young et al. (hereafter referenced as Young), US Patent 5,075,596).

Regarding claim 9, Sakamoto in view of Everitt discloses a display driver control circuitry according to claim 6, Sakamoto also discloses in Fig. 6 wherein said display comprises a passive matrix display having a plurality of rows of display elements, but Sakamoto in view of Everitt does not specifically discloses wherein said voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage on a row-by-row basis.

However, Young teaches wherein a voltage controller is configured to control said supply voltage on a row-by-row basis. (Young discloses in col. 3 lines 41-45 an adjustment to the effective pixel voltage of an electroluminescent display on a row by row basis)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to have modified the controller to be configured to control said supply voltage on a row-by-row basis as taught by Young to be applied to the

controller of Sakamoto for the purpose of increasing the contrast ratio of gray shades which improves the video quality of electroluminescent displays (col. 3 lines 45-51).

15. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Young.

Regarding claim 23, Sakamoto disclose the method according to claim 22. Furthermore, Claim 23 will be rejected on the same basis in view of Young as applied as applied with the motivation is stated above in claim 9. Thus, the combination of Sakamoto with Young meets the method of sensing and controlling on a row-by-row basis.

16. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto in view of Rutherford, US Patent 6,861,810.

Regarding claim 21, Sakamoto discloses the method according to claim 13, but does not specifically teaches wherein a said substantially constant current generator comprises a current sink.

However, Rutherford teaches in Fig. 4 a substantially constant current generator comprises a current sink (col. 4 lines 37-39).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to have used a current sink as taught by Rutherford rather

than the current source of Sakamoto for the purpose of driving the electroluminescent depending on the way the diodes are arranged in the display structure (col. 4 lines 37-39).

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Shieh et al., US Patent 5,748,160, is cited to driving voltages applied after every subframe.

Numao, US Pub. 2003/0011314, is cited to a plurality of measuring circuit of electro-optical devices.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bao-Quan T. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 270-3264. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm EST, alt. Fridays off.

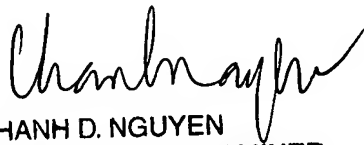
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh D. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BTH


CHANH D. NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER